



2005 Legislative Log

February 15th

Virginia Senate

1. Bill: SB 794 Patron: Watkins

Proposal: To allow for a fuel exemption for agricultural product delivery vehicles - - - aerial crop dusters.

Position: No position.

Status: Passed Senate, 1/24. Reported from House Finance, 2/14.

2. Bill: SB 1094 Patron: Stolle

Proposal: To expand the eminent domain power of local government by identifying noise and safety zones near "Master Jet Bases" as property that could, or be eligible to be, condemned. The proposal indirectly addresses Oceana Naval Air Station and the City of Virginia Beach.

Position: No position.

Status: Pulled by the patron, 1/19.

3. Bill: SB 1113 Patron: Ruff

Proposal: To create the Clarksville - Boydton Airport Commission.

Position: The Department is recommending a position of "Support" for this initiative. The establishment of this Commission would better serve the long term viability of the Clarksville Airport.

Status: Passed Senate, 2/7. In House Counties, Cities, and Towns.

4. Bill: SB 1160 Patron: Stolle

Proposal: To expand the list of applicable categories for local governments to consider should they pursue adoption of building code standards that increase the acoustical treatment deemed necessary to mitigate noise from aircraft operations near “Master Jet Bases”. The proposal indirectly addresses Oceana Naval Air Station and the City of Virginia Beach.

Position: The Department recommends a position of “Support”. The Department endorsed the initial Code provisions several years ago that would be expanded, and notes that the need for tools to address enhancing the airport neighborhood and environment are more pronounced.

Status: Passed Senate, 2/7. In House Counties, Cities, and Towns.

5. Bill: SB 1161 Patron: Stolle

Proposal: To require notification be made when property in a noise or safety zone near a “Master Jet Base” is offered to be transferred for sale. The proposal indirectly addresses Oceana Naval Air Station and the City of Virginia Beach.

Position: The Department recommends a position of “Support” for this proposal. Any improvement to enhance the knowledge of the citizen who intends to purchase property in such an identified area is beneficial for the operation of, and investment in, the airport.

Status: Passed Senate, 1/25. In General Laws, Subcommittee #1.

6. Bill: SB 1162 Patron: Stolle

Proposal: To require notification of prospective tenants that the property they intend to lease is in a noise or safety zone near a “Master Jet Base”. The proposal indirectly addresses Oceana Naval Air Station and the City of Virginia Beach.

Position: The Department recommends a position of “Support” for this proposal. Any improvement to enhance the knowledge of the citizen who intends to lease property in such an identified area is beneficial for the operation of, and investment in, the airport.

Status: Passed Senate, 1/25. In General Laws, Subcommittee #1.

7. Bill: SB 1220 Patron: Colgan

Proposal: To amend existing language to require that local governments notify the airport sponsor or airport manager of development proposals having been filed that would change the zoning, or comprehensive plan, or allow a special-use permit on a parcel(s) within 3000 feet of a licensed public-use airport boundary.

Position: This is an initiative of the Department.

Status: Passed Senate, 2/7. In House Counties, Cities, and Towns.

8. Bill: SB 1311 Patron: Norment

Proposal: To amend and add language to Title 5.1 relating to flying while intoxicated, definition of flight crew, penalties, etc.

Position: The Department has major issues with the proposal that stem from an apparent inconsistency with Federal standards and preemption. We have recommended to the patron that the bill be carried over so that thorough research can be conducted with subsequent recommendations made as to how to best “marry” federal and state standards and intent.

Status: Carried over by the patron until ‘06.

9. Bill: SJR 412 Patron: Martin

Proposal: To confirm executive appointments, including Randall Burdette as Director of the Department of Aviation.

Position: No position necessary.

Status: Passed Senate, 1/31. Passed House 2/11.

10. Bill: SJR 421 Patron: Martin

Proposal: To confirm executive appointments, including Roger Oberndorf, and Larry Omps to the Virginia Aviation Board.

Position: No position necessary.

Status: Passed Senate, 1/31. Passed House 2/11.

Virginia House of Delegates

1. Bill: HB 1597 Patron: Fralin

Proposal: To amend the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission Charter to address the airport name, review of traffic rules, and classification of police officers.

Position: The Department has recommended “No Position” on this proposal. The matters addressed are of a nature as to make them local prerogative.

Status: Passed House 1/31. Reported from Senate Transportation, 2/10.

2. Bill: HB 1603 Patron: Fralin

Proposal: To establish a mechanism to charge the Department with the new responsibility of funding, assigning, and administering airline operations subsidy grants.

Position: The Department has recommended a “Strongly Oppose” position for this proposal. The initiative requires an expansion of direct governmental subsidy into the business operations of a private company, and the Department is not staffed or funded to pursue this type task.

Status: PBI by Finance, 2/2.

3. Bill: HB 1641 Patron: Orrock

Proposal: To allow for a fuel exemption for agricultural product delivery vehicles; to wit: aerial crop dusters.

Position: No position.

Status: Passed House 2/7. In Senate Finance.

4. Bill: HB 1792 Patron: Cox

Proposal: To expand the ability of citizens to acquire ultralight aircraft insurance by allowing firms offering ultralight aircraft insurance to sell coverage in Virginia without being certified by the SCC.

Position: The Department has recommended a “Support” stance with this proposal. The proposal ratifies that there is but one underwriter of this type coverage, and allowing that firm’s participation in the State ensures a commercially available insurance option for citizens when they annually register their aircraft with the Department.

Status: Passed House 1/19. Reported from Senate Comm. & Labor, 2/14.

5. Bill: HB 2901 Patron: Cosgrove

Proposal: To prohibit legal action, regarding aircraft noise, against governmental units arising from property acquired in “air installation compatible use zones”.

Position: The Department recommends “Support” for this measure. It addresses the issue of those who acquire property in a noise zone knowing the nuisance, and thereby restricts them from seeking legal redress or compensation.

Status: Stricken from docket in Counties, Cities & Towns, 2/4.

6. Bill: HJR 813 Patron: BaCote

Proposal: To memorialize Congress to fully fund the NASA Vision & Exploration Program.

Position: No Position.

Status: Passed House 2/4. In Senate Rules.

7. Bill: HJR 580 Patron: Lewis

Proposal: To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Wallops Flight Test Center.

Position: No position.

Status: Passed House 1/14. Passed Senate 1/20.

